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MEET THE ARTIST

MEET THE ARTIST: Kiyomi Yatsuhashi

JOYCE WESTNER | STAFF WRITER

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Kiyomi Yatsuhashi at the Winchester Farmers Market. COURTESY PHOTO/KIYOMI YATSUHASHI

Winchester artist Kiyomi Yatsuhashi credits her mother as her inspiration. She uses shibori, the traditional Japanese tie-dye technique, to paint on fabric.

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“My grandfather was antiques trader in Boston, and worked with the Museum of Fine Arts. I grew up with all the arts and culture in my home,” she says. “It nourished me my whole life.”

Concord outdoor exhibit featured Kiyomi Yatsuhashi’s fabric art ‘Windblown.’ COURTESY PHOTO/KIYOMI YATSUHASHI

A Winchester native, her parents got her private art lessons in elementary school.

“My mother’s father designed kimonos, and my mother, who was a Nagasaki survivor was an ikebana designer. My father and his father dealt in antique Asian art. My family is documented at the Smithsonian. And when I was a young adult, I got a scholarship to research dyeing from the Japanese Ministry of Education,” she adds. “It was just meant to be.”

Yatsuhashi spent two years at the Kyoto City University of Arts, a
earning a masters degree, “I didn’t want to go home. I took a job in a

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gallery teaching ‘English for artists and art lovers.’ I wasn’t a teacher but I loved it.”

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Her main art medium was batik, using the traditional dyeing technique called Rozome, which results in a “precise clean design,” she explains.

“It honors the independence of the artist using contemporary expression,” she says.

A lot of her work “is about my love for nature. And I had an outdoor installation in Concord. I love Winchester and the people who mentored me — I participated in the first Art in August back in 2015.”

Kiyomi Yatsuhashi paints a utility box on Church Street. COURTESY PHOTOS/KIYOMI YATSUHASHI

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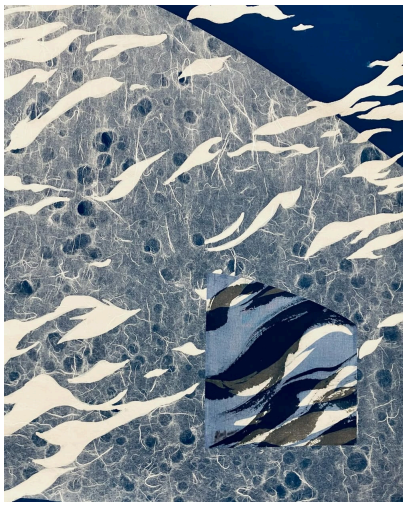
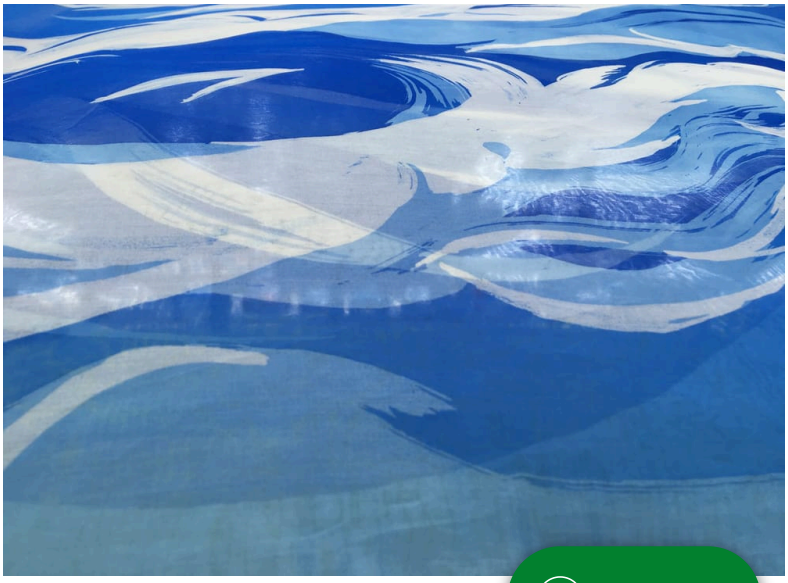
Since 2002, Yatsuhashi has been using mostly indigo in her work.

“At Winchester High, I took the advanced art course and went to the MFA’s summer classes, after which I earned a double degree from there and from Tufts, a BA/BFA and a diploma,” she says. “I loved Tufts where I was able to explore my family’s culture, and I studied print making, ceramics and mixed media.

“At that time there was a store in Winchester called Design Flag where I worked part time, drafting and making banners for malls and trade shows,” she continues. “After 10 years, I became the manager.”





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After returning from Japan, Yatsuhashi worked with Japanese exchange programs and also taught crafts. And these days, she says, “I’ve enjoyed teaching Japanese *shibori* and indigo dyeing at Studio on the Common, the Farmer’s Market and the Jenks Center.”

“Art is my thing,” she says.

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Winchester Highlands resident Rose Walsh-Cooke knows her way around, having lived on two other continents before settling down in Winchester 23 years ago. “I loved that Winchester has a great town center, library and coffee shops, plus easy access to the cinema,” she says. Walsh-Cooke was born and raised in

MEET THE ARTIST

Meet the Artist - Holly Khalil paints from nature

Winchester Highlands resident Holly Khalil has always been passionate about art, she says. “I had a wonderful high school teacher who encouraged us to find our voice,” she says. “I majored in economics and art at Emory University but really [illegible] art, but now it’s a

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Prize-winning artist Carolyn Latanision has a special affinity for rusted steel mills. Which makes sense because she grew up in Bethlehem, Pa., three blocks from one of the biggest mills. “I come from three generations of mill workers,” she says. “It’s a very dangerous business. My great-grandfather died in

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MEET THE ARTIST - and HELPER: Trish Gannon brings art to Winchester

Not only is she a Helper Among Us, Trish Gannon is also an artist. A 30-year Winchester resident, Gannon is a member of the Winchester Cultural Council and helped organize the 2025 Art in August. When asked why she joined the Cultural Council, Gannon says, “I’m an artist looking

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Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

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FEATURES

'Chicago: Teen Edition' dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents "Chicago: Teen Edition," a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. Set in the 1920s, this iconic production is sure to leave the audience wanting more. Performances will

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EVENTS

Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents 'Syldason: You Are Welcome Here'

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

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NEWS

Rep. Michael Day helps House colleagues pass sweeping energy affordability bill

The following was submitted by the Office of Rep. Michael S. Day: Rep. Michael S. Day and his colleagues in the House of Representatives recently passed energy affordability legislation that would result in over $9 billion in savings for utility ratepayers over the next 10 years. The bill maintains critical

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